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STRANGE TALES

MARVEL
COMICS GROUP 12¢

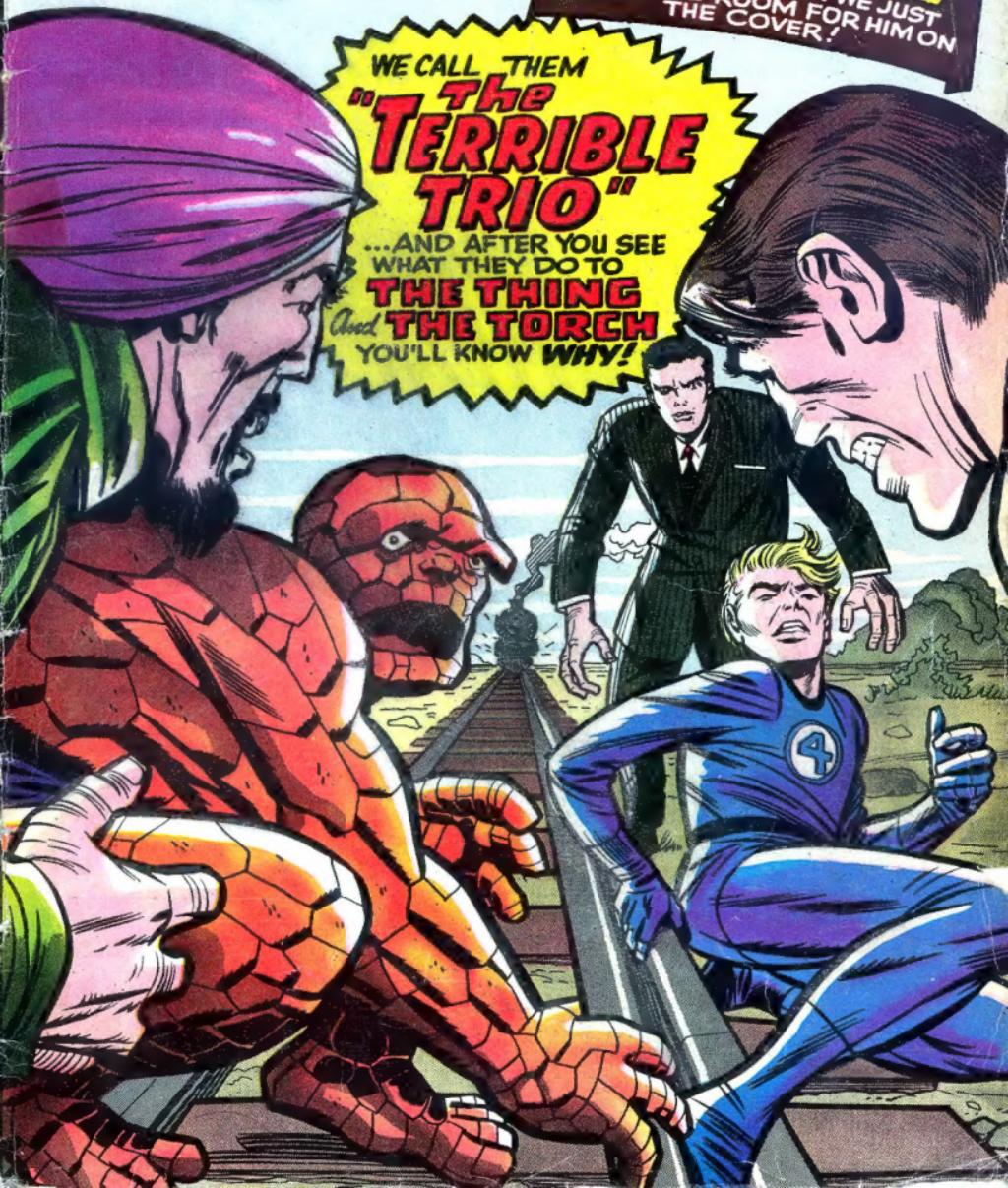
129
FEB

IND.

NO! WE DIDN'T LEAVE
Dr. STRANGE
OUT OF THIS ISSUE! WE JUST
DIDN'T HAVE ROOM FOR HIM ON
THE COVER!

WE CALL THEM
"The TERRIBLE TRIO"

...AND AFTER YOU SEE
WHAT THEY DO TO
THE THING
and **THE TORCH**
YOU'LL KNOW WHY!



Powerful 2-Band AM Shortwave Radio licensed by...



WORLD-WIDE RECEPTION

GETS HUNDREDS
OF SHORT-WAVE STATIONS!
ULTRA-SENSITIVE
FOR FRINGE AREA LISTENING!

Two bands—twice the listening pleasure! A mighty mite with a BIG voice—weighs slightly over one pound yet boasts a big $2\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch permanent dynamic oval speaker. 10 to 1 slide-rule tuning—this means you get better reception and more stations no matter where you live. 8 powerful transistors in RCA licensed

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wherever
you are!

Listen in
on happenings
in these
far-away cities:
ROME
LONDON
MOSCOW
PARIS
QUITO
COLOGNE
HAVANA
MEXICO CITY
and many,
many others.



THE HUMAN TORCH and the Ever-lovin' THING Battle:

"THE

TERRIBLE TRIO!

REMEMBER "PERILS OF PAULINE," THE OLD-TIME MOVIE SERIAL? POOR PAULINE WAS USUALLY LEFT TIED TO THE RAILROAD TRACKS AS THE CHAPTER ENDED! WELL, WE'VE COOKED UP THE SAME TYPE OF PROBLEM FOR OUR TWO BATTLING BUTTERCUPS THIS ISH... AND IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, DON'T BLAME US--TELL IT TO PAULINE!

HEY, MATCH-HEAD! WHERE IN BLAZES ARE YAF, YOGI DAKOR AND HIS TWO SLIMY SWEET-PES JUST BUSTED OUTA THE POKEY? ANSWER ME, YOU REFUGEE FROM A HOTFOOT, I AINT USIN' THIS BLAMED ALERT-O-PHONE FOR MY HEALTH!



STORY BY: STAN LEE
(AS IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW!)

PENCILLING BY: DICK AYERS
(AS IF ANYONE CARES!)

INKING BY: FRANKIE RAY
(AS IF IT MATTERS)

LETTERING BY: ART SIMEK
(AS IF THINGS AREN'T BAD ENOUGH!)

BUT, A FEW MILES AWAY, JOHNNY STORM IS CONCENTRATING SO HARD THAT HE DOESN'T HEAR THE THING'S URGENT CALL...

JOHNNY STORM, IF YOU MISS THAT SIMPLE LITTLE PUTT, I'LL BE ASHAMED OF YOU!

COOL IT, DORRIE! I COULD SINK THIS SHOT WITH MY EYES CLOSED! JUST WATCH--!

BOY! THE THINGS I DO FOR THAT GAL! TO ME, THIS GAME IS STRICTLY NOTHINGVILLE!

HOLY SMOKE!
IT BOUNCED OFF
THE LIP OF THE
CUP! OF ALL
THE CRUMMY--
!!!!

JUST YOU CONTROL YOUR TEMPER, YOUNG MAN! AND NEXT TIME DO YOUR PUTTING WITH YOUR EYES OPEN!

PLINK!

NO MISERABLE LITTLE COTTON-PICKIN' GOLF BALL IS GONNA MAKE A FOOL OUT OF ME! I MUSTA BEEN OFF MY ROCKER TO SAY I'D PLAY THIS NUTTY GAME ANYWAY!

JOHNNY STORM! YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE. I DON'T KNOW WHAT ON EARTH I SEE IN YOU!



A GENTLEMAN LIKE PETER PARKER* WOULD NEVER LOSE HIS TEMPER IN SUCH A JUVENILE WAY! AND, ANOTHER THING...

HOLD IT, HONEY! MY ALERT-O-PHONE IS BUZZING! BIG BEN MUST BE TRYING TO CONTACT ME; IT MAY BE IMPORTANT!



* SEE SPIDER-MAN #21 - STAN.

WHAT? YOGI, HARRY, AND BULL HAVE ESCAPED! WOW! THAT MEANS BIG TROUBLE FOR US!

--AND NEXT TIME CARRY YOUR RECEIVER IN YOUR POCKET, HALF-PINT! I BEEN SHOUTIN' MYSELF HOARSE TRYIN' TO REACH YA!

THIS MEANS ANOTHER DATE RUINED! ANY GIRL WHO DATES A SO-CALLED SUPER-HERO SHOULD HAVE HER SILLY HEAD EXAMINED!



FOR THE NEXT FEW HOURS, A SHARP-EYED HUMAN TORCH COMBS THE GREAT CITY, LOOKING FOR A TRACE OF HIS THREE EX-ENEMIES...

THEY MUST BE FOUND! NOBODY IN TOWN IS SAFE WHILE THEY'RE ON THE LOOSE! THEY'RE CAPABLE OF ANYTHING!



YOGI DAKOR'S FLYING CARPET, AND HIS ORIENTAL MAGIC TRICKS, MAKE HIM ONE OF MY MOST MENACING FOES!

WHILE HANDSOME HARRY PHILLIPS' SUPER-SENSITIVE HEARING AND HIS SLY, CON-MAN BRAIN ALWAYS POSE A DANGEROUS THREAT!



AND I'LL NEVER FORGET THE BRUTE STRENGTH OF BULL BROGAN! AFTER FIGHTING THEM TWICE, I KNOW WHAT A TERRIBLE THREAT THEY REPRESENT!

*SEE FANTASTIC FOUR #23 & STRANGE TALES #122-STAN.

UH OH! I'VE BEEN ALOFT TOO LONG!

MY FLAME'S GOING OUT; I'VE GOT TO LAND-- LIKE RIGHT AWAY!



WHEN I'M LUCKY I JUST HAD ENOUGH OF THE OL' FLAMEROO LEFT TO BRING ME DOWN SAFELY!

BUT I'M KINDA DISAPPOINTED THAT I COULDN'T FIND ANY SIGN OF YOGI AND HIS YAHOO'S!

BUT, ALAS-- IT'S A SHAME THAT THE TORCH CAN'T PEEK AT THE NEXT PANEL, AS WE CAN, AND SEE THAT THE TRIO HE SEEKS ARE CLOSER THAN HE SUSPECTS!

WELL, I'D BETTER HEAD FOR HEADQUARTERS AND FILL IN FOR BEN WHILE HE TAKES A BREAK!



I TOLD YOU HE'D HAVE TO LAND SOONER OR LATER!

LUCKY WE SAW 'IM IN THE AIR AND WE WERE ABLE TO FOLLA HIM DOWN HERE!

THE YOUNG FOOL WAS PROBABLY SEARCHING FOR US!

FORGET THAT YOUNG FOOL BIT, YOSI! WE'RE THE ONES WHO GOT BEATEN LAST TIME WE FOUGHT!





CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

The Merry Marvel Marching Society

THOUGHT WE'D NEVER DO IT, EH? WELL, HERE IT IS! AN HONEST-TO-GOSH FAR-OUT FAN CLUB IN THE MIXED-UP MARVEL MANNER! WE TRIED TO MAKE IT EXCITING ENOUGH TO PLEASE A YANCY STREETER, MERRY ENOUGH TO FORCE JONAH JAMESON TO CRACK A SMILE, AND DIFFERENT ENOUGH TO MAKE SUB-MARINER SEND US A DRIPPING-WET DOLLAR! SO, IF YOU WANT TO BE ABLE TO TELL YOUR GRANDCHILDREN THAT YOU WERE ONE OF THE FIRST TO JOIN, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? YOU MAY NEVER GET A CHANCE LIKE THIS AGAIN! (UNTIL NEXT MONTH!) AND, FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO DON'T TRUST ANYBODY, LOOK: HERE'S WHAT YOU'LL GET...



A GIANT-SIZE M.M.M.S. MEMBERSHIP BUTTON IN DECORATOR COLORS! JUST THE THING TO COVER GRAY STAINS ON YOUR SUPER-HERO CAPE AND DESIGNED TO LOOK GREAT WHEN WORN NEXT TO YOUR PHI BETA KAPPA KEY!

A WHOLE MESS OF LESS M.M.M.S. STICKERS WHICH YOU CAN PASTE ONTO BOOKCOVERS, THE HUBCAPS OF (AND FOR STING-RAY!) INGRATES WHO DON'T APPRECIATE THAT READ "HELP M.M.M.S.!"



be it known

authentic signature
is a charter member in good standing of
The Merry Marvel Marching Society
And is thereby entitled to the adulation
and admiration of all lesser mortals!

These privileges
are non-transferable

GRAND MARSHAL (signature)

FOR THOSE OF YOU LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE FIVE FRANTIC FRIENDS, WE'RE GONNA BREAK OUR HEARTS AND OFFER A REAL BARGAIN: ALL SIX OF YOU CAN JOIN FOR ONLY FIVE DOLLARS! AND, BESIDES ALL THE JAZZ MENTIONED ABOVE, WE'LL DESIGNATE THE SIX OF YOU AS AN OFFICIAL M.M.M.S. LOCAL CHAPTER AND SEND YOU THIS PRACTICALLY PRICELESS MARVEL CERTIFICATE! (IT'S FIVE TIMES THE SIZE YOU SEE HERE!) YOU CAN HANG IT ON YOUR CLUBHOUSE WALL, OR PUT IT SOMEWHERE TOO HIGH TO READ, AND TELL EVERYBODY IT'S YOUR DIPLOMA FROM OXFORD! AND, OL' SMILING STAN LEE WILL PERSONALLY AUTOGRAPH EACH AND EVERY CERTIFICATE... JUST TO PROVE HE CAN WRITE!

WHEN OUR BULLPEN GANG DESIGNS A MEMBERSHIP CARD, WE DON'T KID AROUND! OUR "PLEGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO MARVEL", WHICH YOU'LL FIND ON THE BACK, IS PROBABLY THE FUNNIEST THING SINCE THOR'S LAST CREW-CUT! NATURALLY, IT'S A GREAT STATUS SYMBOL, TOO! JUST WAVE IT AROUND NEXT TIME YOU'RE INVITED TO THE PENTAGON, AND WATCH THE TOP BRASS FLIP! (YOU MAY DISCOVER THAT THEY'RE MERRY MARCHERS, TOO!)

The Merry Marvel Marching Society
To All Who Shall See These Presents,
GREETINGS

Know Ye: That, reposing special Trust and Confidence in the good humor, intelligence and fidelity of
we do bestow upon same the honor of fellowship in the most ancient and exclusive order of The Merry Marvel Marching Society entitling the aforementioned party or parties to freely partake of all benefits, privileges and honorariums which may thereby accrue!

In witness whereof, we have affixed the great seal of Marvel, on this _____ day of _____.

Grand Marshal

HERE'S THE GREATEST SURPRISE OF ALL!

YOU'RE GONNA RECEIVE A FRANKLY FABULOUS 33 1/3 R.P.M. RECORD WITH THE ACTUAL VOICES OF THE BULLPEN GANG CLOWNING AROUND AND WELCOMING YOU TO THE GOOD OL' M.M.M.S.! TALK ABOUT COLLECTORS' ITEMS... YOU'LL NEVER WANT TO PART WITH IT!



MAKE OUT CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO: MARVEL COMICS GROUP!
M.M.M.S.
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
625 MADISON AVE.
NEW YORK CITY, N.Y. 10022

(WRITE NICE AND NEAT!
WE'LL AWARD A SPECIAL
DE LUXE NO-PRIZE FOR
THE BEST COUPON WE GET!)

Hi, GANG!

LET'S FACE IT! I'M A MARVEL MADMAN, TOO! HERE'S MY HARD-EARNED BUCK! NOW, THE LEAST YOU CAN DO IS RUSH ALL THOSE NUTTY GIZMOS REAL FAST, TO....

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ AGE _____

SCHOOL, COLLEGE
OR OCCUPATION _____

'NUFF SAID!

AND WE WON'T FORGET YOU MERRY MARCHERS! IN THE MONTHS THAT FOLLOW THERE'LL BE MORE SURPRISES TO COME!

I'VE SOME PLANS OF MY OWN! AND, THEY DON'T INCLUDE LETTING YOU USE ME AS A SITTING DUCK!

HE MELTED THAT SIGNAL POST! HE'S GETTIN' AWAY FROM US!

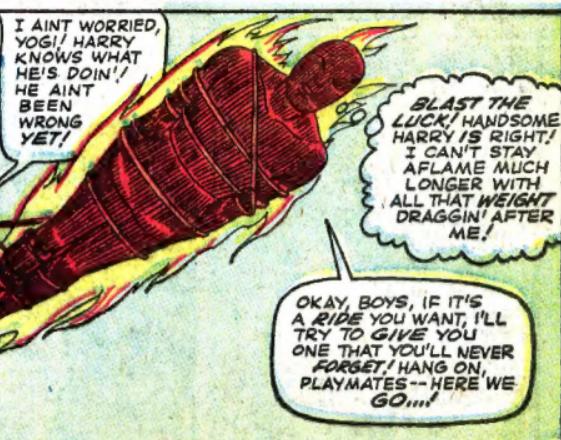
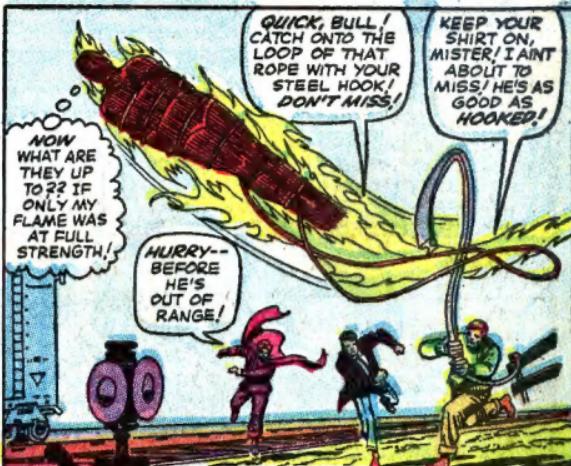
NO! HE WON'T BE ABLE TO FREE HIMSELF! NOT TILL HIS FLAME HAS TIME TO GET MUCH STRONGER! MY ROPES ARE THE STRONGEST ASBESTOS!

BUT HE MUSTN'T BE ALLOWED TO ESCAPE US! I'LL TAKE OVER NOW!

INSTANTLY, THE CLEVER, QUICK-THINKING HANDSOME HARRY BARKS OUT AN ORDER...

BULL! GRAB A SMALL SECTION OF TRACK! TWIST IT INTO A HOOK SHAPE, MOVE, MAN!

CONSIDER IT DONE, HARRY!!



AND, FOR THE NEXT FEW MINUTES...

I'VE TRIED EVERY MANEUVER I KNOW, BUT I CAN'T SHAKE 'EM! THERE'S ONLY ONE OTHER THING TO DO--!

SUMMONING ALL HIS REMAINING STRENGTH, THE TORRID TEEN-AGER INCREASES HIS BODY HEAT, UNTIL--

I DID IT!
I MELTED
THE ASBESTOS
ROPES!
I'M FREE!

I CAN'T LOOK!
HOLD ME, BULL!

DO SOMETHING!
ANYTHING!
SURE! SURE!
I WON'T LET
YA GET THEM
HANDSOME
FEATURES ALL
MUSSED UP!

WELL DONE, BULL! AND YOU NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT ME! I CAN ALWAYS MAKE A FLYING CARPET OF MY CLOAK AND GLIDE TO SAFETY AGAIN!

THIS IS NO TIME FOR
RELAXING, YOGI!
WE'VE SAVED OURSELVES, TRUE--
BUT WHAT OF THE TORCH?

I WAS AFRAID
YOU'D REMEMBER
HIM AGAIN!

NUTS! MY FLAME'S DYING AGAIN-- AND I'VE GOT TO LAND RIGHT NEAR THE OTHERS!

LOOKS LIKE THAT WHOLE WORKOUT DIDN'T DO ME A BIT OF GOOD!

WELL, WELL! IT SEEMS THAT OUR HIGH-FLYING FRIEND DIDN'T ESCAPE US AFTER ALL! HOW CONVENIENT!

THIS TIME I AINT GONNA GIVE 'IM A SECOND CHANCE!

I'M NOT LICKED YET! I CAN STILL MAKE A RUN FOR IT, IF-- OH NO!

MY FOOT GOT WEDGED IN A TRACK SWITCH WHEN I LANDED! I-I CAN'T MOVE!

THEY'RE COMING AFTER ME, BOY, IF EVER A FELLA NEEDED A FRIEND, THIS IS THE TIME!

BENJAMIN,
OL' BUDDY--
I SURE HOPE
YOU'RE
WATCHIN'!!

STOP 'IM! HE'S GONNA USE HIS FLARE GUN!

HOLD IT, BULL! LET HIM FIRE HIS FLARE! IT'S JUST WHAT WE WANT!

IT IS?? WHY??

I HEAR THE SOUND OF AN AIR CAR GLIDING IN THE VICINITY NOW! IT MUST BE THE THING, LOOKING FOR HIS TEEN-AGE PARTNER IN HIS FANTASTI-CAR!

IF WE PLAY OUR CARDS RIGHT, THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO FINISH THE THING OFF, TOO! BUT, WE MUST TAKE HIM BY SURPRISE!

OKAY, PAL--IT SOUNDS GOOD! WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?

THERE MUST BE NO SLIP-UP THIS TIME! YOU KNOW THE ACCURSED STRENGTH OF THAT ORANGE-SKINNED GARGOYLE!

FIRST, MAKE SURE THAT THE TORCH WON'T BE ABLE TO WARN THE THING! PERHAPS A LITTLE REST MIGHT DO HIM GOOD, BULL!

WHAP!
4

THERE'S THE TORCH'S FLARE NOW! THE KID MUST BE IN TROUBLE! LUCKY I WAS OUT SEARCHIN' FOR 'IM!

IT WAS A PLEASURE, CHUM!

LOOKED LIKE IT CAME FROM THE RAILROAD YARDS! I BETTER SKEEDADDLE DOWN THERE FAST!

I SURE HOPE HE'S OKAY! HE MAY BE THE WORLD'S BIGGEST KNUCKLEHEAD, BUT I KINDA GOT USED TO 'IM AFTER ALL THESE YEARS!

HEY! I SEE SOMETHIN' DOWN BELOW!

IT'S HIM--LYIN' ON THE TRACK! BUT--HE AINT MOVIN'! MAYBE HE'S--! NO! HE CAN'T BE-- HE CAN'T!!

NERVOUSLY, FEARFULLY, THE MIGHTY THING LANDS HIS CRAFT AND RUSHES TO HIS FALLEN FRIEND--

JOHNNY-- JOHNNY BOY! SAY SOMETHIN'! IT'S BEN, JOHNNY! IT'S YOUR EVER-LOVIN' BLUE-EYED BUDDY!

HE--HE AINT TALKIN'! HE AINT MOVIN'!!

SO CONCERNED IS HE ABOUT JOHNNY'S WELFARE, THAT THE USUALLY-ALERT THING DOESN'T HEAR THE FOOTSTEPS, OR THE WHISPERED VOICES BEHIND HIM....

BUT--HE'S BREATHIN'! HIS HEART'S BEATIN'! HE'S STILL ALIVE!

'ALL RIGHT! YOU BOTH KNOW WHAT TO DO!!'

7

THEN, MOVING LIKE A WELL-OILED MACHINE,
THE TERRIBLE THREESOME
GO INTO ACTION!



IT'S YOGI DAKOR,
FLYIN' ABOVE ME--
WITH A CHICKEN-SCRATCHIN' KING-SIZED SNAKE COMIN' OUTTA HIS BASKET!

THEN, AS THE MONSTROUS REPTILE DROPS DOWN UPON HIS POWERFUL HUMAN FOE...



KEEP AT IT, YOGI! DON'T STOP THAT MUSIC! AS LONG AS YOUR SNAKE KEEPS HIM IMMOBILE, BULL WILL HAVE A CHANCE OF FINISHING HIM OFF, ONCE AND FOR ALL!

I CAN'T LEAVE THE TORCH LYING THERE-- A TRAIN'S LIABLE TO COME BY AT ANY MINUTE! I GOTTA POLISH THESE THREE CREEPS OFF FAST-- AND THAT GOES FOR THIS OVERGROWN WORM, TOO!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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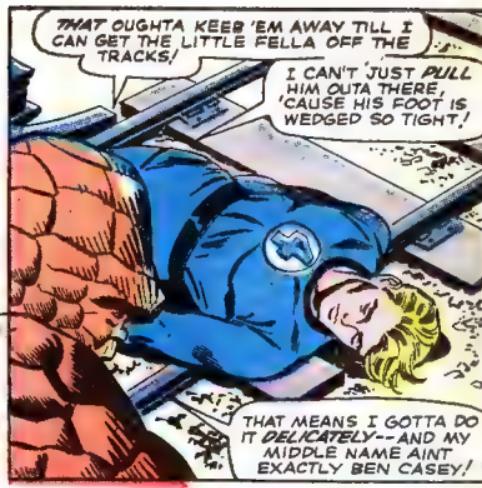
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HOWEVER, BULL BROGIN,
POSSESSING THE STRENGTH
OF TWELVE NORMAL MEN,
BELLows AN ANGRY CHALLENGE!

YOU CAN'T PUSH ME AROUND
LIKE THAT! I DON'T CARE
WHO YA ARE! I'LL SMASH
YA, HEAR?? I'LL SMASH YA!!

HE'S SO BUSY WITH
THE TORCH THAT HE
DON'T EVEN HEAR
ME! WELL, THAT'S
HIS TOUGH LUCK!

IF I CAN
MOVE THAT
RAIL
WITHOUT
BUSTIN'
HIS
FOOT-!!

AND THEN...

WHONK!

I GOT 'IM! YOGI!
HARRY! GET HERE
FAST BEFORE HE
BUSTS LOOSE!

WHEEEET!

A TRAIN'S
COMIN'!!
JOHNNY'S
STILL ON
THE TRACKS!!

I'LL HOLD ONTO
HIM UNTIL--
UHH, IT'S IMPO-
SSIBLE! HE'S TOO
STRONG!

THE KID!
I
GOTTA
REACH
THE
KID!

HOLD IT, YOGI!! STAY BACK,
BULL! NOTHING CAN STOP
THAT TRAIN NOW!

IT'S NO USE! I CAN'T GET
HIS FOOT FREE IN TIME--
IT'S EVEN TOO LATE FOR ME
TO STAND UP MYSELF!!

WHEEET

I DON'T
GET IT!!
WHAT'S
THE
THING
TRYING
TO
DO??





AND NOW, JUST FOR THE SAKE OF DRAMA, LET'S SKIP A HALF HOUR INTO THE FUTURE...

SIT BACK AND RELAX, KID! YA JUST WOKE UP, AND I DON'T WANCHA CONKIN' OUT ON ME AGAIN!

BUT--I DON'T GET IT! WHAT HAPPENED?

IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN TO A DOG, JUNIOR!

--AND THE TERRIBLE TRIO
--THEY'RE ALL TIED UP AND READY FOR MAILING!
HOW'D YOU DO IT, BEN??

I WAS AFRAID YOU'D NEVER ASK!
IT WAS EASY! ALL I HADDA DO WAS SAVE US FROM THE TRAIN THAT WAS ABOUT TO FLATTEN US TWO LIVIN' DOLLS!

"WELL, I AINT NO BLASTED HULK, BUT I AINT EXACTLY A PANTY-WAIST, EITHER! I REMEMBERED WHAT REED ALWAYS SAID ABOUT HOW IMPORTANT LEVERAGE IS, SO I PROPPED MYSELF UP REAL GOOD, USING MY LEGS FOR LEVERS, AND THEN..."

HOW ABOUT THAT?! I'M A HUMAN BACKSTOP!!

IT'S THE THING! IT--IT'S UNBELIEVABLE! HE STOPPED THE TRAIN WITH HIS OWN SHEER MUSCLE POWER!

THWANNING

WHOOM



"THEN, NOT HAVIN' TO WORRY ABOUT YOU BEIN' PULVERIZED BY THAT CHOO-CHOO, I DECIDED TO GIVE OUR GLOATING GOONBOYS A LITTLE ATTENTION--!"

THEY'RE SO BUSY PATTIN' THEMSELVES ON THE BACK, THEY DON'T YET SEE THAT WE'RE STILL ALIVE 'N KICKIN'!!

DR. DOOM WOULD BE PROUD OF US!

SAY--WHAT'S THAT NOISE I HEAR??

NOW LET'S TACKLE MR. FANTASTIC HIMSELF!

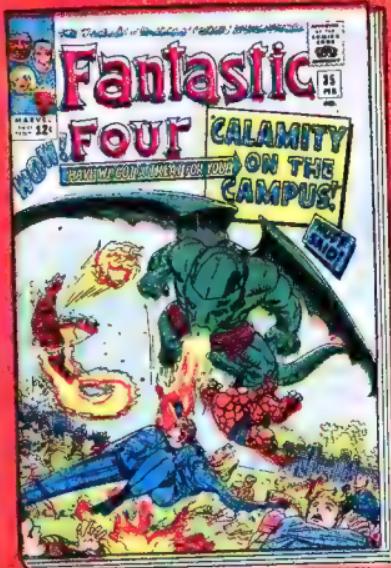
I'LL SPARE YA THE REST OF THE DETAILS, BECAUSE YOU'RE YOUNG AND IMPRESSIONABLE! BUT, AFTER I GOT THRU Clobberin' 'EM, I FINALLY FRIED YOUR FOOT OUTA THE TRACKS, AND SO, HERE WE ARE!

NOW DON'T SLOBBER ALL OVER ME WITH GRATITUDE, KID! IT WAS ALL IN A DAY'S WORK!

GRATITUDE, SHMATITUDE! HOW ABOUT DROPPING ME OFF AT DORRIE'S SO I CAN ASK HER TO FINISH OUR GOLF GAME?

NEXT ISH THE TORCH AND BLUE-EYED BENJAMIN GET A NEW ARTIST, AND A NEW TYPE OF SURPRISE YARN! WE'LL BE WAITING FOR YOUR OPINION, SO DON'T MISS IT! AND NOW--LET'S CHANGE TO DR. STRANGE--!

4 MORE MARVEL MASTERPIECES!

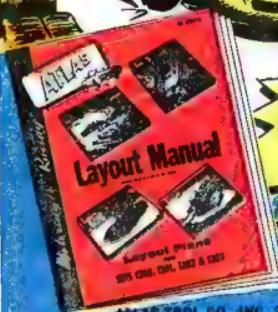


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Plainly Here

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Dr. STRANGE

MASTER
OF THE
MYSTIC ARTS!

BEWARE....

TIBORO!

THE TYRANT OF THE SIXTH DIMENSION!

DO NOT, WE BEG YOU, PERUSE THIS SPELLBINDING SAGA TOO HASTILY... THERE IS FAR MORE HERE THAN MEETS THE HURRYING EYE. WITHIN THIS GRIM NARRATIVE LURKS A DREAD SECRET... AND AN INSIDIOUS WARNING THAT THREATENS YOU EVEN AS YOU READ! FOR, WHEN YOU ARE DONE YOU WILL AGREE THAT THE ABOVE TITLE IS THE PRIZE UNDERSTATEMENT OF ALL TIME!

INTRODUCING, THOUGH
WE HATE TO DO IT...
TIBORO!



EDITED
BY:
**STAN
LEE,**

AND HIS MAGIC
TYPEWRITER.

SCRIPT
BY:
**DON
RICO,**

AND HIS MYSTIC
FOUNTAIN PEN.

ILLUSTRATED
BY:
**STEVE
DITKO,**

AND HIS MIRACU-
LOUS LEAD PENCIL.

LETTERED
BY:
**SAM
ROSEN,**

AND HIS MELANCHOLY
PENPOINT.

THE EVEN TENOR OF THE CITY IS DISTURBED ONE DAY BY THE RARE PUBLIC APPEARANCE OF THAT MOST UNIQUE OF MORTAL BEINGS... THAT MOST MYSTERIOUS OF MODERN MEN... DR. STRANGE!

GIVE US A **BREAK**, DR. STRANGE! WHAT'S THE LOWDOWN ON WHY YOU WON'T DISCUSS **BLACK MAGIC** ON THE "TWELFTH HOUR" T.V. SHOW?

IS IT BECAUSE YOU CAN'T BACK UP YOUR PRINCIPLES WITH LOGIC? ARE YOU AFRAID YOU CAN'T PROVE YOUR BELIEFS?

LIKE THAT? DR. STRANGE GETS AN OFFER TO TALK ABOUT BLACK MAGIC ON T.V. AND HE REFUSES! I WONDER WHY?

HOW DO YOU HE SURE IS A MAN OF SILENCE AS WELL AS MYSTERY!



YOU JUST CAN'T TELL ABOUT THAT FELLA! WE KNOW HE'S DONE A LOT OF GOOD WITH HIS HOCUS POCUS AND STILL HE WON'T ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE OF THE PANELISTS OF THE "TWELFTH HOUR"! HOW DO YOU FIGURE IT?

HOW CAN THEY UNDERSTAND? THE TRUE SECRETS OF BLACK MAGIC ARE FAR BEYOND THEIR COMPREHENSION. I KNOW IT EXISTS! THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS!



AS SCIENTISTS, WE BELIEVE ONLY WHAT WE CAN SEE, TEST AND PROVE! ALL ELSE IS Nonsense! WE CLAIM THAT BLACK MAGIC EXISTS ONLY IN FICTION!

EXACTLY! DR. STRANGE'S THEORIES ARE AS RIDICULOUS AS HIS ATTIRE! WE SHALL PROVE IT! PROFESSOR SCHUYLER, WILL YOU PLEASE SHOW US THE SO-CALLED "SCREAMING IDOL?"



BUT THOUGH DR. STRANGE LIVES WITHIN THE WORLD OF THE OCCULT, MORTAL MAN MUST QUESTION AND INVESTIGATE! THAT MIDNIGHT, "THE TWELFTH HOUR" GOES ON THE AIR...

WE REGRET TO INFORM OUR AUDIENCE THAT DR. STRANGE HAS NOT ACCEPTED OUR INVITATION TO APPEAR ON THIS PANEL!



THEREFORE, WE REJECT HIM AS AN AUTHORITY ON THE WORLD OF THE SUPER-NATURAL! WE SHALL PROCEED WITHOUT HIM!

THIS IS IT, DR. GREEN! THIS EFFIGY WAS EXCAVATED IN PERU! IT IS ONLY A PAGAN IDOL, A WORTHLESS BIT OF SUPERSTITION! AND IF DR. STRANGE BELIEVES THAT THIS SORT OF THING CONTAINS MYSTIC POWERS, WE ARE IN ABSOLUTE OPPOSITION TO HIM!



JUST THEN, WITH THE SUDDENNESS OF A CLAP OF DOOM, THE STUDIO IS PLUNGED INTO STYGINIAN DARKNESS ...

HEY, TURN ON THE EMERGENCY GENERATOR! WE'RE BLACKED OUT!



IT'S JUST THIS ONE STUDIO. FILL IN WITH A TRAVELOGUE TILL WE LOCATE THE TROUBLE!

GOTCHA! BUT IT SURE TURNED INTO A REAL "TWELFTH HOUR", DIDN'T IT?



HOWEVER, WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE TURNED ON, THEY REVEAL ...

WHERE'D THE PANEL GO? THERE'S NOBODY HERE BUT THE SCREAMING IDOL!



BUT, THE ENSUING SEARCH REVEALS NOTHING!

WE'VE LOOKED EVERYWHERE, MR. JAMES! THEY'RE JUST NOT IN THE BUILDING!

KEEP AT IT! THEY CAN'T HAVE GONE FAR IN SO LITTLE TIME!



I...I'VE GOT A SICK FEELING THAT THEY HAVE VANISHED, JOE! BUT HOW? AND WHERE? ARE YOU THINKING WHAT I'M THINKING?

YOU MEAN... THE IDOL?? AW, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! AND YET... IF IT DOES HAVE ANY SUPER-NATURAL POWER...?



BUT, WHAT DO WE DO? WE CAN'T CALL IN THE POLICE! THEY'LL THINK IT'S A PUBLICITY STUNT FOR THE SHOW!

WELL, THERE IS ONE FELLA WHO MIGHT TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY! IT CAN'T HURT TO CALL HIM...



WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MOMENTS, TWO OCCURRENCES TAKE PLACE!! ONE, IS THE MODERN MAGIC OF TWO MEN SPEAKING THROUGH MILES OF UNDERGROUND WIRE! THE OTHER, IS THE APPEARANCE OF HIS MYSTIC CLOAK OF LEVITATION UPON THE COMMAND OF THE MASTER OF THE SUPERNATURAL... DR. STRANGE!

I SHALL DO MY UTMOST TO TOUCH NOTHING UNTIL MY ARRIVAL!

COME, TREASURED GIFT OF THE ANCIENT ONE! THE WORLD HAS NEED AGAIN OF OUR OCCULT POWERS!



IF YOU HAD BEEN AT YOUR WINDOW, ON A CERTAIN RECENT NIGHT... AND HAD LOOKED UP INTO THE DARK SKY, YOU WOULD HAVE BARELY SEEN THE DIM, FURTIVE FIGURE OF DR. STRANGE SOARING ABOVE, HELD aloft by HIS CLOAK OF LEVITATION!



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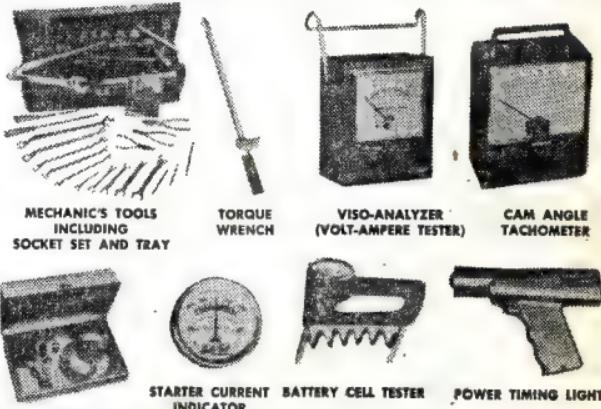
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WITH THE SILENT DIGNITY THAT IS HIS NATURE, THE MAN OF MANY MYSTERIES ENTERS THE STUDIO AND HEARS THE TALE OF THE VANISHING PANELISTS!

THAT'S THE STORY, DR. STRANGE! WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT ON, THE THREE MEN WERE GONE! UNCANNY, I CALL IT!

I SEE! LET US RE-STAGE THE SCENE NOW! DARKEN THE STUDIO!



DARKNESS AGAIN SHROUDS THE AREA.... A DARKNESS PIERCED ONLY BY THE ENCHANTED AMULET OF DR. STRANGE... AND ONLY HE CAN SEE THE POWER OF THE SCREECHING IDOL AS A TECHNICIAN VANISHES INTO ITS AURA...

BY THE MYSTIC MOONS OF MUNNOPOR! THE IDOL TRULY POSSESSES A MIGHTY POWER! BUT ITS PURPOSE IS BEYOND MY COMPREHENSION! I REQUIRE COUNSEL FROM A HIGHER SOURCE!



BUT FIRST, I MUST MAKE CERTAIN THE IDOL CLAIMS NO OTHER VICTIMS! THEREFORE, BY THE POWERS AT MY COMMAND, I PLACE A MYSTIC SHIELD ABOUT THE EVIL FIGURE!



QUICKLY! I REQUIRE A CHAMBER FOR SOLITARY CONTEMPLATION!

SURE... TAKE THAT ROOM! AND GOOD LUCK, DOC! WITH THE WHACKY STUFF GOIN' ON AROUND HERE, YOU'LL NEED IT!!



ALONE IN THE LOCKED ROOM, DR. STRANGE SUMMONS THE SPIRIT OF HIS GREAT PROTECTOR AND OCCULT GUIDE...

BY THE SEVEN RINGS OF RAGGADOR! HELP ME, OH ANCIENT ONE! LET YOUR IMAGE APPEAR BEFORE ME!



ALTHOUGH RELUCTANT TO LEAVE THE SPIRITUAL AURA THAT IS HIS SOURCE OF KNOWLEDGE, THE ANCIENT ONE RESPONDS TO THE PLEA OF HIS FAVORITE DISCIPLE...

BEHOLD THIS EFFIGY, OH GREAT MENTOR! I AM PUZZLED BY ITS ACTIONS! IT IS MENACING MANKIND AND I AM NOT ABLE TO FATHOM ITS PURPOSE!

FOUR MEN HAVE VANISHED BECAUSE OF ITS POWERS... IS IT WITHIN YOUR DOMAIN TO AID ME IN THIS MYSTERY?

I HAVE HEARD ENOUGH... TOO MUCH!



MY BRAIN REELS, MY SON, AT THE AWESOME SIGHT OF IT! IT IS THE EFFIGY OF TIBORO, LORD OF THE SEETHING VOLCANO, EVIL RULER FROM THE DIM, DEAD PAST! IF HIS IDOL HAS FINALLY APPEARED, IT MEANS TIBORO IS READY TO STRIKE!



"MANY AGES AGO, LONG BEFORE THE COMING OF MODERN MAN, THE EVIL TIBORO WAS WORSHIPPED BY AN EARLIER TRIBE OF BEINGS IN A SAVAGE ERA UNDER THE RULE OF THE DREADED ONE!"



"THE POWERFUL TIBORO EXORCISED THE MIGHT OF LIGHTNING, CREATING AN ELECTROPLASMIC RAY TO RULE HIS WORLD!"



"BUT, THAT MYSTIC PERIOD ENDED. THE CIVILIZATION VANISHED AS DID ITS DESPOTIC TYRANT, TIBORO! ONLY THE SCREAMING IDOL REMAINED, BURIED IN PERU... BUT MY MIND GROWS DIM; I AM WEARY... THE STRAIN OF MENTAL TALK IS TOO GREAT..."



ACCEPT MY GRATITUDE, OH, MASTER! IT SHALL BE MY DUTY TO PURSUE THE MYSTERY FROM THIS POINT!

MAY THE SEVEN RINGS OF RAGGADORR PROTECT YOU, MY SON!

FOR YOU ENTER AN UNKNOWN REALM!



NOW, I MYSELF MUST ALLOW THE POWER OF THE IDOL TO CLAIM ME! ONLY THUS CAN I CONFRONT THE ONE CALLED TIBORO!



POWER INTO POWER! THE OCCULT INTERTWINES WITH THE OMNIPOTENT AS DR. STRANGE MOMENTARILY REMOVES HIS SHIELD AND IS thus SUDDENLY ABSORBED INTO AN ALIEN DIMENSION!



BUT, BEFORE COMPLETELY LEAVING THE WORLD OF MAN, HE AGAIN CLOAKS THE OMINOUS IDOL WITH A PROTECTIVE SCREEN, SO THAT IT CLAIM NO OTHER INNOCENT VICTIMS!



DIZZING SENSATION BEYOND SENSATION! VORTEX CHURNING INTO VERTIGO! AND THE MAN OF MANY MYSTERIES IS TRANSPORTED INTO THE SIXTH DIMENSION... INTO THE REALM OF TIBORO!



SO, DR. STRANGE... I WAS AFRAID OF THIS!

I SUSPECTED THAT MY ACTIVITIES WOULD ATTRACT YOUR ATTENTION! I HOPED TO GO ON WITHOUT YOUR INTERFERENCE! BUT, NOW I MUST DEAL WITH YOU BEFORE I CONTINUE!

ALL THE MYSTIC EVIL FORCES MUST DEAL WITH DR. STRANGE!

RASH ONE, KNOW THAT TIBORO
CAN FATHOM YOUR PURPOSE! YOU
SEEK THE RELEASE OF MY CAPTIVES!
THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE! THEY ARE THE
FIRST OF MILLIONS OF MORTALS
OVER WHOM I SHALL RULE AS I
ONCE RULED AN EARLIER RACE
OF EARTH BEINGS!

I AM THE SPIRIT OF DECAY! WHEN A CIVILIZATION
HAS REACHED A POINT OF CRISIS...THEN I TAKE
COMMAND! YOUR WORLD SEETHES WITH TENSION
AND UNREST...WITH THE MENACE OF WAR AND
ANARCHY! IT'S ALMOST READY FOR THE
TYRANNY OF TIBORO!

YOU ARE WRONG,
SINISTER ONE!
MAN HAS SUR-
VIVED MANY
CRISSES AND WILL
YET SURVIVE HIS
PRESENT DILEMMA!
YOUR TIME IS NOT YET,
TIBORO!

I HAVE TO
OPPOSE HIM
CAUTIOUSLY...
SO I CAN DIS-
COVER THE SOURCE
OF HIS POWERS!
MAY THE HOSTS
OF THE VISHANTI
HELP ME! I MUST
MAKE HIM DISCARD
THAT MYSTERIOUS
WAND! PERHAPS
THAT IS THE
KEY!



THE MIGHTY DESPOT OF DECAY CHARGES THE MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS WITH ALL HIS FORMIDABLE BRUTE POWER!
BUT DR. STRANGE BRINGS THE SKILL OF THE SERAPHIM INTO PLAY, CAUSING TIBORO'S BLOWS TO FALL ON EMPTY AIR,
WHILE INFILCTING STINGING DAMAGE UPON THE POWERFUL TYRANT FROM THE SIXTH DIMENSION.



ENOUGH OF PRIMITIVE
BRUTE STRENGTH!
LET THE TEST OF
BLACK MAGIC BEGIN...
THEN WE SHALL SEE
WHO SURVIVES!

HE HAS DISCARDED
HIS CLOAK...OBVIOUSLY
A WEAPON OF
POWER... I MUST
STRIKE BEFORE HE
CAN REGAIN
IT!

NOW FEEL THE FURY
OF THE ELECTRO-
PLASMIC SPELL OF
TIBORO!

THE FORMIDABLE CREATURE TRULY
POSSESSES A POWERFUL SPELL...
BUT I CAN DEFLECT IT WITH MY
SPELL OF THE MYSTIC SHIELD!

YET, WITHOUT MY
CLOAK, I AM AT
A FATAL DIS-
ADVANTAGE!

UNABLE TO REACH HIS CAPE,
TEMPORARILY BLINDED BY THE
VOLCANIC RAY, HE REELS UNDER
ITS AWESOME IMPACT!

MY... MY CLOAK! DO I STILL HAVE
THE STRENGTH TO COMMAND ITS
LEVITATION? IF I FAIL, THE WORLD
TOTTERS ON
THE BRINK!

WITH THE LAST OUNCE OF MY MYSTIC
POWERS... IN THE NAME OF THE ALL-
SEEING AGAMOTTO... AND
OF THE ANCIENT ONE
HIMSELF... ENGULF
TIBORO!

GAZE
UPON MY
WAND... AND
DIE!

IT IS THE TEST OF STRENGTH OF TWO
MIGHTY POWERS! BUT THE CLOAK
RESPONDS TO DR. STRANGE'S
COMMAND AND WRAPS ITSELF ABOUT
TIBORO TO BIND AND BLIND HIM!

IT IS TRUE! HIS CLOAK IS POTENT!
THIS IS TIME FOR MY MOST
DESTRUCTIVE FORCES!

I UNDERRATED YOU,
MAN OF MAGIC! BUT
I STILL BELIEVE
MORTALS ARE
DOOMED!

IT IS YOU WHO ARE DOOMED,
TIBORO! MAN WILL
SURVIVE EVEN THE DESPOTIC
AMBITIONS OF SUCH AS YOU!
I REMOVE MY CAPE! MY
SENSES ARE STRONG
ENOUGH TO MEET
YOUR EVERY
CHALLENGE!

THEN, BY THE VAPORS OF
VALTOR, LET US SEE IF YOU...
AND MANKIND... CAN
SURVIVE THE FULL FORCE
OF THE CONCENTRATED
POWERS OF DARKNESS! THEY
CONQUERED A DECAYED
WORLD FOR ME ONCE AND
WILL DO SO AGAIN! I HURL
THE DEVASTATING MAGIC OF
MY TOTALITY SPELL AT YOU!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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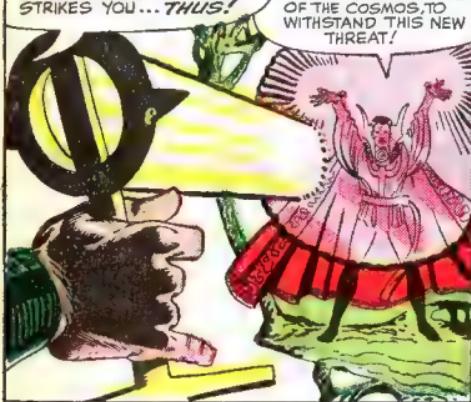
GAZE CAUTIOUSLY, HUMAN! FOR YOU ARE LOOKING UPON A BATTLE FOR EARTH'S SURVIVAL, AS DR. STRANGE TAKES UPON HIMSELF THE FULL FORCE OF TIBORO'S AWESOME ATTACK! AND THEN...

HIS MAGIC IS STRONG... BUT MINE IS THE MAGIC OF GOOD AGAINST EVIL! LET THE SPELLS OF TIBORO DISBAND!



IT IS YOU WHO WILL HAVE ENOUGH... THE INSTANT MY ELECTROPLASMIC RAY STRIKES YOU... **THUS!**

SHADES OF THE SERAPHIM... ENGULF ME WITH THE CIRCLE OF THE COSMOS, TO WITHSTAND THIS NEW THREAT!



MY POWER IS SPENT, BUT NO MATTER! YOU ARE NOW AS HELPLESS AS I!

YOUR MAGIC HAS WEAKENED, BUT MINE IS STILL OMNI-PRESENT! LET THE GROUND RISE UP AND ENCLOSE ME!



IMPOSSIBLE! ARE HIS SPELLS WITHOUT LIMIT?? I MUST RUSH FORWARD... I'LL SHATTER THAT ACCURSED SHIELD WITH ONE MIGHTY BLOW!



AS THE MELTING OF ICEBERGS BEFORE THE POWER OF THE SUN, TIBORO'S SPELL FADES INTO SHEER NOTHINGNESS!

I SURVIVE, MONSTROUS ONE! THE OMNIPOTENT FORCE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS IS STRONGER THAN THE POWERS OF EVIL! HAVE YOU HAD ENOUGH PROOF?



YOUR SHIELD CANNOT PROTECT YOU FROM THE ELECTROPLASMIC FORCE OF TIBORO! SEE! IT CRACKS AND FALLS APART!

I MUST CALL UPON YET ONE MORE SPELL... THOUGH IT DRAINS MY LAST VESTIGE OF STRENGTH!



RIGHTEOUS FOOL! YOU HAVE OUTWITTED YOURSELF! YOUR SHELL IS ONLY A TRAP FOR YOUR DESTRUCTION!

BY THE VIPERS! HE HAS VANISHED!





NO! IT'S TRUE! IT'S ALL THE PROOF I NEED THAT DR. STRANGE IS INDEED A PRACTITIONER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS!

HE BROUGHT OUR PEOPLE BACK FROM NOWHERE WITH HIS POWERS!

WE'LL PUT ON A SHOW DEPICTING WHAT HAPPENED... AND PROVE THE EXISTENCE OF BLACK MAGIC!

DR. STRANGE WILL BE THE STAR!

NO! BY THE TWELVE MOONS OF MUNINOPOR, THIS CANNOT BE! IT IS NOT MEANT FOR MORTALS TO KNOW SO MUCH OF WHAT TRANSPRIES IN THE MYSTIC DIMENSIONS! IN THE NAME OF THE ALL-SEEING AGAMOTTO, I CAST THE SPELL OF FORGETFULNESS OVER YOU ALL!



AND SO... AS THE MAGIC SPELL IS CAST, TIME GOES BACK TO THE MOMENT WHEN THE STUDIO WAS BLACKENED...

HEY! TURN ON THE EMERGENCY GENERATOR! WE'RE BLACKED OUT!

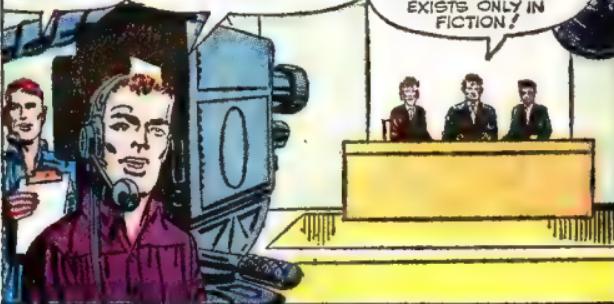


BUT THIS TIME, THANKS TO THE ENCHANTMENT OF THE MORTAL MASTER OF SORCERY, THE EVENTS THAT FOLLOW ARE... DIFFERENT!

THE LIGHTS ARE ON! WE'VE BEEN OFF THE AIR ONLY A FEW SECONDS!

GREAT! NO HARM DONE, THEN! PEOPLE WILL THINK IT WAS A DRAMATIC EFFECT! LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD!

AS SCIENTISTS, WE BELIEVE ONLY WHAT WE CAN SEE, TEST, AND PROVE! ALL ELSE IS NONSENSE! WE CLAIM THAT BLACK MAGIC EXISTS ONLY IN FICTION!



As "THE TWELFTH HOUR" RESUMES, A SHADY, SILENT FIGURE WATCHES FROM THE SHADOWS... AND SMILES SECRETLY TO HIMSELF...

IT IS DONE! LET THEM BELIEVE AS THEY WILL... SO LONG AS THEY DO NOT RECALL THE MENACE OF TIBORO! ...AND SO LONG AS THEY WORK TO ACHIEVE TRUE PEACE AMONG MEN!



IT IS BEST THIS WAY! AND I PRAY THAT CIVILIZATION NEVER FALTERS... THAT MAN'S IDEALS NEVER GROW SO WEAK THAT TIBORO WILL STRIKE AGAIN!



THUS, WHILE THE CITY WATCHES THE PANEL DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF BLACK MAGIC, DR. STRANGE TAKES TO THE SKIES TO RETURN TO THE SANCTUM OF HIS GREENWICH VILLAGE RETREAT...



And now, as truly as the Vishanti exist in the cosmos, we shall surely meet again next issue! Till then, may your amulet be eternally glowing!

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:

THE MARVEL
COMICS GROUP
2nd FLOOR
625 MADISON AVE.
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

STRANGE MAIls

Dear Stan and Dick and Steve,

Let me compliment you on STRANGE TALES #126. The cover was just great! Even though Dr. Strange had only a small part of the cover, it was large enough to dramatize his entrance into the domain of the dread Dormammu! In the Mad Thinker and the Puppet Master, the Torch and Thing have at last found worthy foes. I think they are the only ones, next to Diablo and Doc Doom, who have come close to destroying the different members of the F.F. The Dr. Strange story in this issue was, as usual, your greatest yet. Don't look now, but I think Doc will become one of the greatest single heroes in the Marvel line-up since Spider-Man!

Robert Weis, Lake Ave.
Union Pier, Mich.

Much obliged, Robby! And regards from the omnipotent Oshur!

Dear Stan and Dick and Steve,

STRANGE TALES #125 was in my opinion one of the worst Torch/Thing stories location-wise. The ocean is not the place for a battle. I admit it was a good story action-wise, art-wise and script-wise, but I think there's not much that can be done with this setting for this story. I liked the twists you put in the story, such as the reporters wanting to interview Mr. Fantastic and the Invisible Girl to get a story on the Torch and the Thing. Namor's coming to talk over a peace with Mr. Fantastic was sheer brilliance! The high light of the issue was the DR. STRANGE story, "Mordo Must Not Catch Me". The plot was the finest yet and will be very hard for you to surpass. However, I have a question for you. Are the names used in the spells made up as you go along or are they gods of some long dead religion?

James Melnichok, 4708 Kennedy Blvd.
Union City, N.J.

Tell you what, Jimmy — instead of us answering you, we'll give a late model no-prize to the Marvel madman who sends us the best reply to your question! Okay?

Dear Stan and Dick and Steve,

Doc Strange is terrific and Steve Ditko's weird flair is perfect for him. The Thing is by far the more interesting character in the F.F. and should have been given his own strip a long time ago. Bending to popular opinion, Stan has put him in the Torch strip but has yet to finish the job! Make Ben Grimm the regular and Torch the occasional guest star! Fandom wants Ben — let's get him!

Robert Metz, 2424 Kirkham St.
San Francisco, Cal. 94122

Or, as they say on Yancy Street — "You can HAVE 'em!"

Dear Stan and Steve,

Comments on Dr. Strange seem in order. Of all the series on necromancy published since the beginning of comics (and there have been several), the good doctor is by far the master. Being somewhat of a sorcery student myself, I find it a great pleasure to read something halfway realistic — as realistic as one can be with this type of hero. Ditko is at his best when sketching the weird. Although, if I were you, I'd hide his efforts at doing B. J. Grimm from jolly Jack Kirby or he may not be jolly much longer. May Mithra smile upon you!

Clint Bigglestone, 2615 Shannon Dr.
So. San Francisco, Cal.

Mithra! Look, C.B., don't go pulling any ringers on us! We're having enough trouble remembering the names we've already used! Mithra — CHEE!

Dear Stan and Dick and Steve,

I don't think it's fair the way Doc Strange has to play second fiddle to the Thing and the Torch. They al-

ready are in one magazine, namely the F.F., so why should they hog the glory of another? I think Doc Strange should get top billing and get the cover story also. After all, wouldn't it be more appropriate that the main story in a magazine titled STRANGE TALES be about Dr. Strange? As you have said before, majority rules at Marvel so why don't you bring this up with your readers?

Bob Suter, 479 Goodrich Ave.
North Babylon, N.Y.

Fair enough, Bobby! Now we'll sit back and wait for the mail! (It's easier than working!) But you know US, pal — if we do decide to star Doc Strange, we'll probably star him in THOR!

We give up! Now that all our mags have letters pages, we get so much mail that we just can't send cards in answer to your letters any more! But, you know we're reading them — and that's what counts!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION:

Ready for a surprise? Well, here's TWO of 'em — First, we'll have a new celebrity artist doing the Torch and Thing strip next issue! You've probably seen Bob Powell's work in some of our finer men's magazines — well, he's the same crackerjack illustrator who did fantasy strips for us years ago, and he really gives our two brawling beauts a brand new look! Just wait'll you see it!

Our second surprise is: Dr. Strange begins a new, different type of series next month! Just for a change, Stan asked sunny Steve to dream up a real far-out plot, and if you hadn't guessed before, you're about to learn that sterling Stevey Ditko has one of the most inventive, off-beat imaginations anywhere! Don't say we didn't warn you! The next one's gonna be DIFFERENT!

A Line-Up Of Some Of The Marvel-ous Mags On Sale Right Now!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

FANTASTIC FOUR #35: Leaves it to the world's greatest mag to come up with another of the world's greatest new arch-foes! Thisish has everything! The F.F. go to college! They fight Dragon Man! And they again face the deadly Diaboli!

SPIDER-MAN #21: This is the one that everybody's been clamoring for! Watch the fur fly when Spidey and the Human Torch tangle with each other! And see the evil Beetle as he plans to destroy them both! AVENGERS #12: America's mightiest super-hero team finds itself battling one of the world's strangest menaces, with the fate of all mankind hinging on the outcome! And guess who the two surprise villains are! X-MEN #9: We wish there were new adjectives to describe this one! It features both the X-Men AND the Avengers! Also, for the first time, you'll see the eerie Lucifer! And be prepared for anything when Professor X gets back into action!

THOR #112: All we have to tell you is — Thor fights the Hulk! It's the kind of action you want, written the way you like it, and drawn by jolly Jack Kirby, the action king himself! It's the greatest battle since the Hulk fought the Thing!

SUSPENSE #62: This is it at last! The startling, long-awaited Origin of the Mandarin! And wait till you see how Iron Man escapes of' Mandy this time! As for Captain America, the poor guy is trying to stop a jailbreak singlehanded! And, if anybody can do it —

ASTONISH #64: See Giant-Man fight none other than Atuma, the sensational menace of F.F. #33! This is a different type of thriller for high-pockets and the wonderful Wasp! Meanwhile, the Hulk is again attacked by the mysterious Leader and his hordes of humanoids! No wonder he goes on a rampage!

SGT. FURY AND HIS YOU-KNOW-WHO'S #14: This one's a block-buster! For the first time, Fury and his happy heroes go up against a deadly blitzkrieg squad, specially trained to destroy the Howlers! It's a trap that only Baron Strucker could devise, and Fury's fanatics charge right into it! Wow!

Remember, next issue is a BIG one — in which Ben and Johnny will meet THE BEATLES — and Dr. Strange will suffer his first actual defeat at the hands of — aw, but why spoil your surprise? BE HERE — or we'll tell Hoggle on you!

BOYS! MEN! I'LL HELP YOU MASTER YUBIWAZA*

says N.J.FLEMING - YUBIWAZA MASTER

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says Yoshiie Imanami—
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Fleming — Yubiwaza Master

can make him say "uncle" quickly
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Make no mistake! The world is crowded with anti-social enemies who think nothing of sticking a knife into the ribs . . . or attacking peace-loving persons just for the fun of it . . . or molesting boys and girls shamelessly. There is a crying need for a system of self-defense that relies on KNOWLEDGE—not big muscles or strength—that depends on TECHNIQUE—not weight or size of body—but on your own personal courage which you can apply to maximum advantage. I have jam-packed all I know about YUBIWAZA into my Guide, which I have profusely illustrated and clearly explained. Take this step toward self-confidence—the fundamentals of this amazing system so that you understand clearly and immediately how these effective principles work. You learn those tricks used by marines, police and G-men . . . how to hold a gun . . . how to touch vital spots that will make any attacker helpless. No matter whether you are big or small, strong or weak, you can overpower practically any opponent with lightning speed!

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Knowledge of YUBIWAZA will turn you into a NEW MAN even if you never actually have to use it! You become SELF-ASSURED through your ability to handle yourself. You will walk with a deter-

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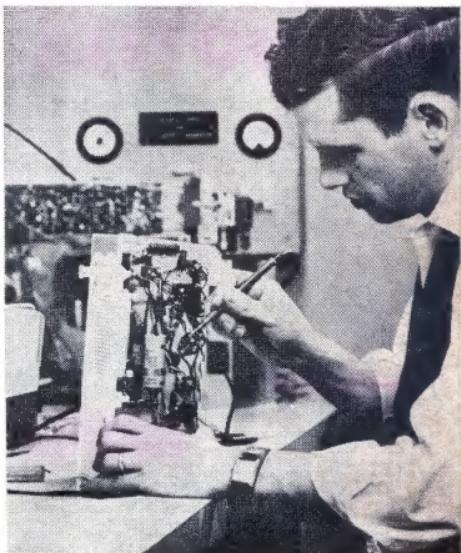
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NRI was a wonderful foundation. RAYMOND D. ARNOLD, Attleboro, Mass.

Thanks to NRI I am in a top position with the Federal Aviation Agency in the Navionics Electronic Section, JOHN C. COOPER, Fort Worth, Texas. Four months after starting your course I left my job in a hardware store to work at Raytheon Manufacturing. Now I am an engineering assistant in Microwave Power Tube Research and Development Laboratory. LEONARD BLOOM, Newton Centre, Mass.

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23 LESSONS

HOW TO HYPNOTIZE
Simple Technique

HOW TO AWAKEN SUBJECT

THE POST-HYPNOTIC
SUGGESTION

HOW TO DEVELOP NEW
PERSONALITY

CURING BAD HABITS

HYPNOTIZE YOURSELF

THE CENTER OF
ATTRACTION

HOW TO ENTERTAIN

SIMPLE SECRETS REVEALED AT LAST

For years the knowledge of how to produce hypnotic sleep has been so used but only a few have mastered this art. But now the veil of secrecy has been lifted and the innermost SECRETS and techniques revealed. The fact is that Hypnotism is a scientific fact that most anyone with average intelligence can learn. Once you know the secrets and methods you can bring about this strange and wonderful control that has been used by doctors, psychiatrists and entertainers in the past. Yes, now this remarkable phenomena will be yours to use for pleasure, self-development and countless other benefits.

MAIL NO-RISK
FREE TRIAL
COUPON!

YOU CAN PERFORM HYPNOTIC FEATS!

First, you must understand that what another person does with Hypnotism, you can also learn to do. A person who has learned to Hypnotize may make people cry, laugh, smoke, stop smoking, recall childhood memories, make folks to sing, dance...do many things. And the most amazing thing of all is---HOW EASY IT IS TO DO!

SO EASY TO MASTER!

Here at last complete and easily learned course in Hypnotism. In three short, simple chapters you learn the secrets of Hypnotism and how to Hypnotize. No long, technical, mumbo-jumbo explanations are given. The entire 23 lesson Guide to Hypnotism is written in plain, SIMPLE language that anyone with average intelligence can understand. After the third lesson you are able to begin performing countless techniques clearly explained in the next 20 lessons. You may learn how to cure bad habits in yourself and others, how to BUILD PERSONAL MAGNETISM. And you'll learn how to MAKE

MONEY with your new power by entertaining at parties, lodges, club meetings, etc. Truly, this knowledge will give you a NEW SURGE OF CONFIDENCE unlike any you have known.

DEVELOP SELF CONFIDENCE!

Hypnotize quickly! This method of hypnotism is easy to learn. It shows step by step how to bring on the hypnotic trance and how to terminate the trance. You get clear, easy to follow instructions. You will find it a great aid for self improvement. It will help you develop self confidence.

23 Fact-Packed LESSONS TELL ALL!

Now Available a Complete and authentic course on Hypnotism at a low, low price.

Doctors and students have PAID hundreds of DOLLARS for personal instructions in Hypnotism, when obtainable. Knowledge such as this can be useful to the user over the years. Yet, due to printing economies, large press runs and also by the elimination of

correspondence costs, the complete 23-Lesson Guide To HYPNOTISM is yours for only \$1.98. Yes, only \$1.98 for the COMPLETE COURSE Certainly a tiny investment for so much!

USE FOR 30 DAYS WITHOUT OBLIGATION!

PROVE to yourself that YOU CAN HYPNOTIZE EASILY! Order the 23 Lesson Guide to Hypnotism today and put it to the test the very next evening. The first three chapters teach you the SECRET of Hypnotism and the 20 chapters that follow introduce you to many new WONDERS of this art. For the next 30 days as our guest, perform the WONDERS of Hypnotism among your friends, at home and at work. Then if you don't feel it's the GREATEST VALUE you have ever received for \$1.98--we don't want you to keep it. Just mail it back and the small payment you sent will be PROMPTLY refunded --- no questions asked. You have nothing to lose - A knowledge of Hypnotism TO GAIN. So Order Now!

CHECK HERE HYPNOTIC POWERS YOU WANT!

- HYPNOTIZE QUICKLY
- SELF HYPNOTISM
- CURE BAD HABITS
- DEVELOP SELF CONFIDENCE
- HOW TO ENTERTAIN
- PERFORM STUNTS, TRICKS
- IMPROVE YOUR PERSONALITY
- RELIEVE TENSION
- MAKE MONEY



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